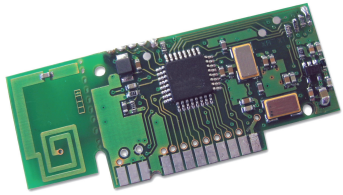
A^RF34 Multi-channel transceiver with µC 434MHz / 10mW



User Guide

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About this Document

This guide describes the A^RF34 devices, their options and accessories.

Declaration of Conformity

Manufacturer's name: **ADEUNIS R.F.**
Manufacturer's address: Parc Technologique PRE ROUX IV
283 rue Louis NEEL
38920 CROLLES - FRANCE

declares that the product if used and installed according to the user guide available on our web site www.adeunis-rf.com

Product Name: **ARF34**
Product Number(s): **ARF7525A**
is designed to comply with the RTTE Directive 99/5/EC:

EMC: according to the harmonized standard EN 301 489.
Safety: according to the standard EN 60950-1/2001
Radio: according to harmonized standard EN 300-220 covering essential radio requirements of the RTTE directive.
Notes: - Conformity has been evaluated according to the procedure described in Annex III of the RTTE directive.
- Receiver class (if applicable): 3.

According to the 1999/519/EC recommendation, minimum distance between the product and the body could be required depending on the module integration.
Warnings: - CE marking applies only to End Products: Because this equipment is only a subassembly, conformity testing has been reduced (equipment has been design in accordance to standards but full testing is impossible). Manufacturer of End Products, based on such a solution, has to insure full conformity to be able to CE label marking.
- As the integration of a radio module requires wireless technological knowledge, ADEUNIS RF proposes its technical proficiency to its customers for a pre-compliance qualification of end products. In case of no-conformity, ADEUNIS RF will not be held back responsible if this stage has not been realised.

Crolles, May 16th, 2008
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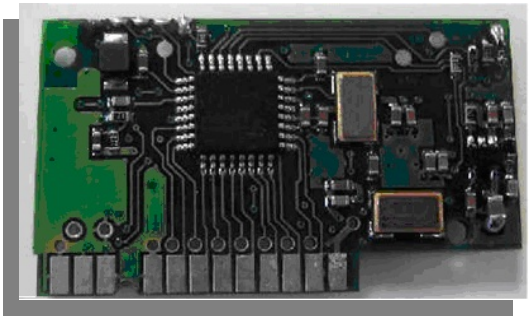
Overview

The ARF34 radio transceiver converts data from a serial link into a radio frame to be sent to a similar piece of equipment. The communication is half-duplex.
The operating parameters of these radio transceivers (serial link, radio management...) can be fully updated through AT commands via the serial link.



Interface

Mechanical specification

The transceiver is available in only one format: plugged module without antenna.

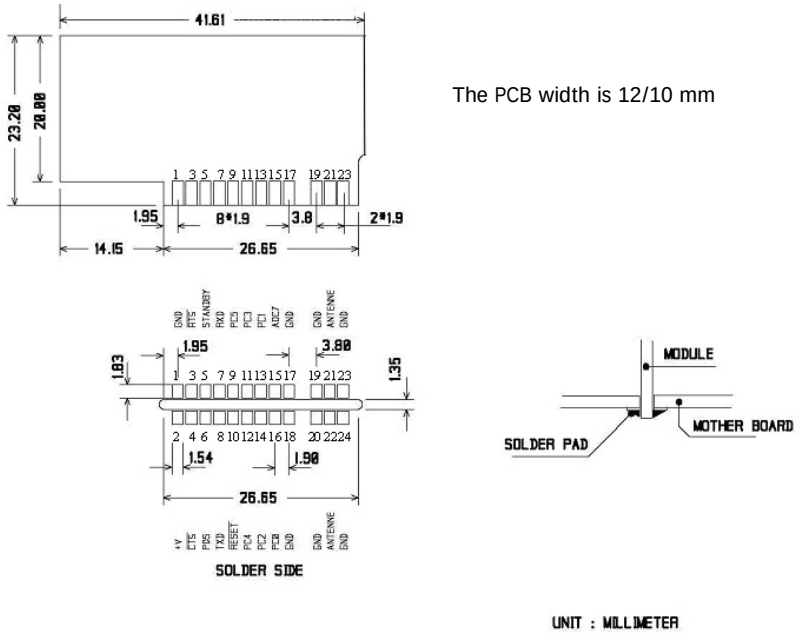


Figure 1: Plugged module mechanical feature

This module has been designed to be plugged (as describe above). If this assembly doesn't suit your requirement, please have a look to Annex 1 (mainly for horizontal mounting).

Signal description

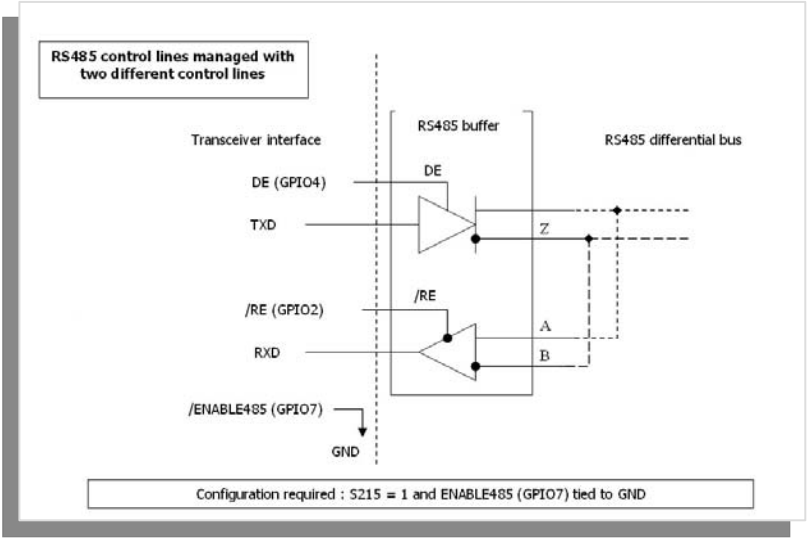
Interface Pin	Name	I/O	Description	Alternate function
			Digital interface	
1	GND		Ground	
2	VDD		Operating voltage	
8	TXD	O	Serial data transmission	
7	RXD	I	Serial data reception	
3	/RTS	O	Request To Send RTS = GND, the transceiver is able to receive serial data RTS = VDD, serial data received by the transceiver are lost	
10	/RESET	I	Transceiver Hardware RESET, active LOW.	
5	PWD	I	Power down management	
16	GPIO1 / PC0	I/O	Extended general purpose I/O	
13	GPIO2 / PC1	I/O	Extended general purpose I/O	RS485
14	GPIO3 / PC2	I/O	Extended general purpose I/O	
11	GPIO4 / PC3	I/O	Extended general purpose I/O	RS485
12	GPIO5 / PC4	I/O	Extended general purpose I/O	RS485
9	GPIO6 / PC5	I/O	Extended general purpose I/O or I	
6	GPIO7 / PD5	I/O	Extended general purpose I/O	RS485
15	GPIO8 / ADC7	ADC	Analog to digital conversion	
17, 18	GND		Ground	
			RF interface	
19, 20	GND RF		RF antenna ground	
21, 22	RF in/out		RF antenna IN/OUT.	
23, 24	GND RF		RF antenna ground.	

	Description	Min	Max	Unit
Vil1	Input low voltage except /RESET	-0.5	0.3VDD	V
Vih1	Input High voltage except /RESET	0.6VDD	VDD+0.5	V
Vil2	/RESET Input low voltage	-0.5	0.2VDD	V
Vih2	/RESET Input High voltage	0.9VDD	VDD+0.5	V
	/RESET pulse width	2.5	-	µs

General purpose I/O extended functionality

RS485 interface

The S215 register allows enabling the management of the control lines (/RE and DE lines) of most RS485 buffer. The following figures illustrate the RS485 wiring and the configuration required for activating the DE and /RE management. Even one line is sufficient, for more flexibility two different lines could managed the DE and RE RS485 control lines. Hereafter a connection example with both lines or one line only.



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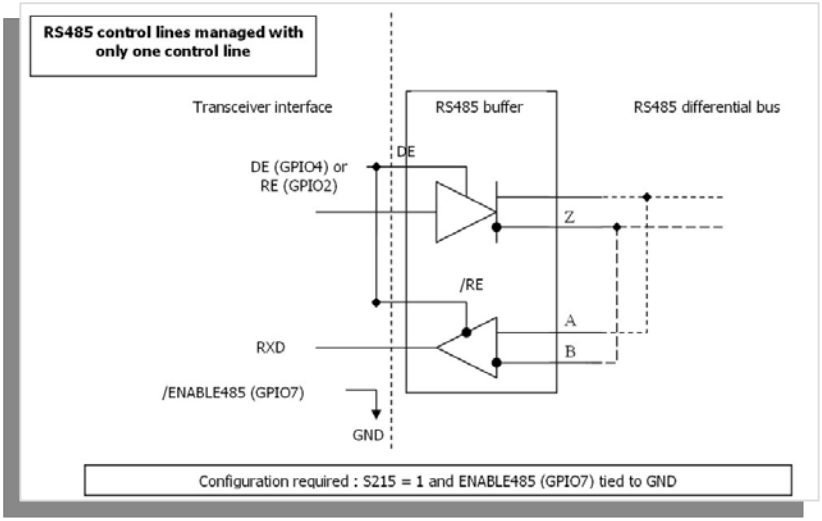


CAUTION

- the /ENABLE485 is read ONLY at power-up. Changing the /ENABLE485 (GPIO7) when the transceiver is already running will not be taken in account.
- when activating the RS485 interface the GPIO5 will be set as an output.

215 Value	/ENABLE 485 (GPIO7)	DE/RE state	Note	GPI O2	GPI O4	GPI O5	GPI O7
1	GND	Output	RS485 control lines management	Outp ut	Outp ut	Outp ut	Input
1	VDD	Input	RS232 configuration	Input	Input	Input	Input
0	Input	Input	RS232 configuration	Input	Input	Input	Input

Table 1: R485/232 configuration settings

By default, the DE and RE lines are asserted LOW, allowing the reception of characters from the RS485 differential bus. The DE and RE lines are asserted HIGH only when one or several characters have to be transmitted over the RS485 differential bus : when a radio frame is demodulated, the lines are asserted HIGH and then the data extracted from the radio frame are sent to the module TXD line and therefore to the RS485 differential bus. When the last character has been transmitted over the RS485 differential bus, the lines are asserted LOW.

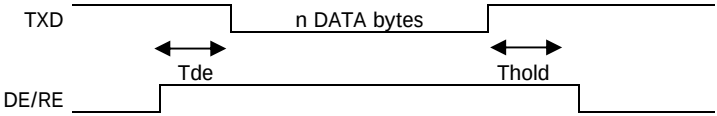


Figure 2: DE/RE timing when data are sent over the serial link

- Thold : minimum = 1 µs
- Tde : set according to the S219 register value (see table hereafter)

S219	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	20	40	60	80
Tde min	15 µs	35 µs	65 µs	135 µs	150 µs	190 µs	330 µs	600 µs	1.1 ms	1.7 ms	2.3 ms

- In command mode, when a reply is sent back (on the TXD line) according to the following DE/RE timing :

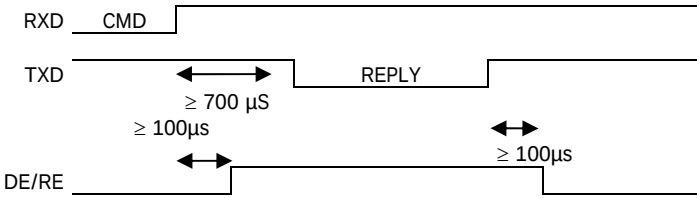


Figure 3: DE/RE timing when a reply is sent back on the TXD line

Radio communication

Radio communication

434 MHz version

This modem has several channels over the 434 MHz Band that can be selected using AT commands, distributed in Wide Band and Narrow Band.

Wide Band channel:

- 3 Wide Band channels
- 57.6 kbit/s “air rate”
- channel spacing: 500 kHz
- Sensitivity: - 105 dBm
- Adjacent channel rejection: see chapter **Channel rejection**

Narrow Band channel:

- 15 Narrow Band channels
- 10 kbit/s “air rate”
- channel spacing: 100 kHz
- Sensitivity: - 110 dBm
- Adjacent channel rejection: see chapter **Channel rejection**

NOTE

When delivered this modem is set up in Narrow Band to optimize the range. The RF out power is set up at 10mW by default but could be adjusted using AT commands (see register S231).

This module is designed to operate according to CEPT/ERC/REC 70-03 recommendation. This recommendation has been drawn up by the European Radio communications Committee (ERC) under CEPT.

According to this recommendation, in Europe, the power is limited to 10mW in this frequency band.

Radio channels

434 MHz version

The 3 Wide Band channels are selected according to the following table:

Channel S200	Frequency (MHz)
0	434,4
1	433,9
2	433,4

Figure 4: Wide band channels

The 15 Narrow Band channels are selected according to the following table:

Channel S200	Frequency (MHz)
3	434,65
4	434,55
5	434,45
6	434,35
7	434,25
8	434,15
9	434,05
10	433,95
11	433,85
12	433,75
13	433,65
14	433,55
15	433,45
16	433,35
17	433,25

Figure 5: Narrow Band channels

Channel adjustment

The S200 register allows choosing the desired channel and the associated radio rate (see ***"AT Commands" chapter)***

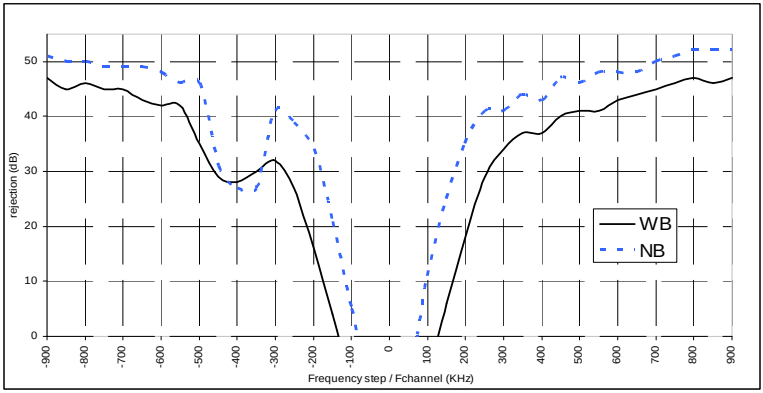
Radio rate selection

For 434 MHz version, the Radio rate selection is automatically done when setting the channel number:

If you choose a channel number ≥ 3 (Narrow Band), the radio rate will automatically switch to 10 kbit/s.
If you choose a channel number < 3, the module will operate in the Wide Band configuration. The radio rate will switch automatically to 57600 bit/s.

Channel rejection

The graph below shows the typical channels rejection in WideBand (WB) and NarrowBand (NB) modes.



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Particular attention is required for product installation. In the case where several links must works in the same area (independently of the channel positions), the minimum distance between 2 products belonging to different radio links is 3 meters. Even with this precaution (depending of the product environment), channel rejection could be reduced.

RSSI reading

The RSSI (Received Strength Signal Indicator) gives an indication for the received power level.
It could be accessed with AT commands (ATS230?<cr> command).

- The RSSI level is only an indication. Use this level with care due to the dispersion between components.
- The operating temperature could also have an impact on these dispersions.
- The RSSI level could also indicate the potential presence of any jammer in the used channel.
- **The RSSI is a necessary but not sufficient condition to obtain a correct reception.**

Transceiver operating mode

Two operating modes are available:
1. Command mode (usage of AT commands)
2. Transceiver or normal mode (serial data are transmitted on radio link)

At power up the transceiver is in transceiver mode: it is able to send / receive data to / from the radio link according to its current parameter configuration.

Command mode

The command mode is used to read and update the modem configuration registers using AT command.

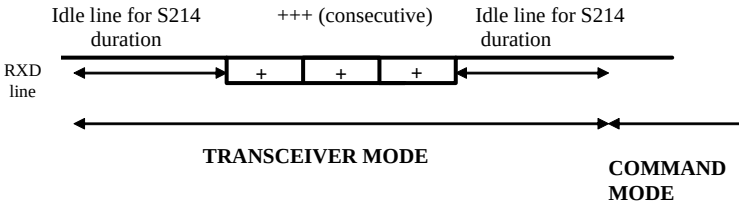
NOTE
The AT command can be locked using ATPWD command.

In command mode, the radio is inhibited (reception and transmission), excepted when using test command.

Entering command mode: issues on the serial link a "+++" sequence. The sequence is accepted only if no character have been seen before and after the "+++" sequence. Register (S214) defines the silence duration.

Tips 1: if you are using a terminal (such as Hyperterm), you have to send the "+++" sequence using a text file (first create a text file containing only the "+++" characters, and then use in Hyperterm the command "Send text file" in the "Transfer menu")

Tips 2:



Exiting command mode (return back in transceiver mode): send the serial command

ATO <cr>

Transceiver mode

In transceiver mode, two protocols are available:

1. Transparent mode, without flow control.

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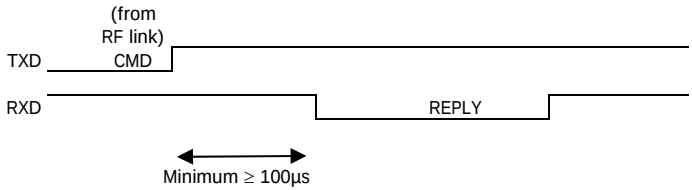
2. Addressed mode, with flow control (see register S216)

The communication is always half-duplex. The radio transmission is processed prior to the radio reception (when the transceiver is sending a radio frame, it is not able to decode any incoming radio frame).

If no data are sent on the serial link, the modem is waiting for radio reception. Each radio frame sent by another modem is received and the validated data extracted from the radio frame are sent on the serial link. When the last character has been sent on the serial link, it is possible to send an answer at least 100 µs (minimum) after the end of this last character.



All the data received on the serial link are encapsulated in a radio frame.
The radio frame format depends on the used protocol.

When acting as transceiver, the radio frame transmission always starts under the following conditions:
Detection of a silence on the serial link (greater than S217) after the reception of the latest character.
Or when the number of received characters from the serial link is higher or equal to the maximum radio frame size (S218).

Transparent mode

In transparent mode, the modem acts as a wire serial link. It means that alternately, the modem sends on the radio the data received from the serial link and sends on the serial link the data received from the radio.
The radio frame format is:

- <Preamble><synchro>DATA <postambule>.
  Preamble, synchronisation and postambule are used for the radio reception.

Addressed mode

In transmission mode, data received on the serial link are sent on the radio link with the following format:

- <Preamble><synchro><Address> DATA <postambule>.
  Preamble, synchronisation and postambule are used for the radio reception.
- The Address field is set up with S256 value (LSB first).
- In reception mode: The <Address> field of the radio frame is checked with the reception address (S252)
- If the radio frame address matches the transceiver reception address (S252), DATA (and only DATA) are transmitted on the serial link

Otherwise received data are silently discarded.

Transceiver state machine

When operating in transceiver mode the 'RF transmission' state machine is:

Idle state of the transceiver: by default the transceiver is waiting for incoming data on the RS232 link and for incoming radio frame on the radio link.

The RS232 link has a higher priority than the radio link (if a radio frame is demodulated meanwhile some RS232 characters are detected on the serial link, the radio frame will be discarded and the RS232 incoming data will be processed).

Processing incoming RS232 data: the incoming RS232 data are internally buffered. The buffered data are **sent in a radio frame** (the RF modulation is started) when almost one of the following conditions occurs : if a break (silence greater than S217 timeout) is detected on the incoming serial flow (no more data to be sent).

if the radio buffer size is reached (the number of buffered characters are equal or greater than the S218 size).

Processing incoming radio frame: the valid data are extracted from the incoming radio frame and internally buffered. The buffered data are sent on the fly to the RS232 module output.

Power management (standby mode and low power mode)

Two modes are available for power management:

1. A standby mode, with a short wake-up time.
2. A low power consumption mode with a longer wake-up time (including supply stabilisation and radio calibration)

	Standby mode	Low power consumption mode
Entered	**When :** in command mode **How :** set S232 register to 1, issuing the AT command ATS232=1<cr>	**When** : in transceiver mode **How** : a high level (or pin left unconnected) on the PWD signal puts the module in low power mode **Condition** : the low power mode consumption must be enabled (see hereafter)
Exited	**How :** when receiving the following string ATS232=0 **State after wake up :** transceiver mode	**How :** a low level on PWD signal wakes up the device **State after wake up :** transceiver mode
Consumption	≤ 4 mA (2.5 mA typical, to be refined)	≤ 30 µA (To be refined)
Wake-up time	< 100 µs	5 ms

Enable Low Power down mode:
The low power down mode is managed only after its activation. Applying a High level on the PWD signal when the mode has not been activated has no effect ➔ the module is still running in its current mode.
In command mode, send the AT command ATS232=2<cr>. After this, a High level applied on PWD signal during transceiver mode allows the module to enter the low power consumption mode.

Disable Low Power down mode:
In command mode, enter the AT command ATS232=0<cr> the S232 register is not applicable.

AT COMMANDS

Description

AT commands are interpreted only when the transceiver is in Command mode.

Command: are used to read and update the modem parameters
- A command starts with the 2 ASCII 'AT' characters. 'AT' means 'Attention' follow with one or several characters or other data.
- Each command is ended with <cr> (carriage return).
- In the same command, the time between 2 characters must be less than 10s.

Response: is sent back for each command on the serial link. The answer is:
- 'O'<cr> (ASCII character 0x4F) for accepted command (or OK command)
- 'E'<cr> for error
- Specific string when specified

Set of commands

Commands	Description
	Operating mode selection
ATO	Return back to transceiver mode.
<silence>+++<silence>	Command mode activation. The +++ sequence must be preceded and followed by a calibrated silence (no other character)
	Registers management
ATSn?	Displays the Sn register content where n represents the register number. The response has the following format: Sn=y<cr><lf>
ATSn=m	Sets the Sn register value with 'm'. n represents the register number..
AT&W	Saves the new register configuration in EEPROM. Each time you switch on the modem, the EEPROM configuration will be loaded in the modem registers.
AT/S	Displays all register values. The response has the following format: Sxxx=y<cr><lf> for each register.
AT/V	Software version display. The response has the following format: Adeunis RF Versatile Modem 434 MHz 50mW Vxx.yy<cr><lf>
ATR	Restore the register default values
ATPWD=m	m = pin code (register S205) : unlock all AT commands. m = 0000 : set registers to default value and unlock all AT commands.
	Test modes
ATT1	Pure Carrier (data=0) transmission using current channel. The output of this mode is achieved by reception of any character on the serial link.
ATT2	Pure Carrier (data=1) transmission using current channel. The output of this mode is achieved by reception of any character on the serial link.
ATT3-ATT6	Modulation using current channel. The output of this mode is achieved by reception of any character on the serial link. ATT3: 0.9 KHz modulation ATT4: 3.6 KHz modulation ATT5: 14.4 KHz modulation ATT6: 28.8 KHz modulation

AT/S is not available for baud rate lower than 2400 bauds

Register description

The register value could be updated using the ATSn=m<cr> command and displayed using ATSn?<cr> command.

At power-up, the previous transceiver configuration is restored from E2PROM (non volatile) to RAM. The registers are located in RAM registers, any modification is performed on RAM registers: To save current register configurations, it is necessary to use the AT&W<cr> command (If not, the updated parameters are lost in case of power shortage).

The registers are shared in 2 types: read only (R) or read/write (R/W)

Type	Register	Function	Description	Default value	Note
			Radio management		
R/W	S200	Channel number	Radio channel for 434 MHz version : - From '0' up to '2', Wide Band channel. - From '3' up to '17', Narrow Band channels.	**3**	3
When leaving factory, this product is set up in Narrow Band (channel 3) to optimize the range					
R/W	S202	Command mode, auto-exit	Automatic command mode exit 0 : (no specific management), the command mode will be exited only when an ATO command is issued. From 1 to 60 : timeout in second. ➔ If no activity (no character, command reception) is detected in command mode for the programmed timeout, the command mode will be exited. The module is back to transceiver mode	**0**	
R/W	S204	Preamble duration	Preamble duration, unit ms From 4 up to 50	**20**	4
R/W	S217	Serial timeout for radio	Serial timeout before starting radio transmission, unit ms. From 3 up to 240.	**3**	1

Type	Register	Function	Description	Default value	Note
R/W	S218	Radio frame length	Size of the radio frame (from 1 up to 240). When this size is reached: 1. the transceiver sends a radio frame 2. the RTS signal is activated (pull to VDD) **only** if the module is operating in the addressed mode.	**128**	
R	S230	RSSI level	Displays the reception level of the latest received message. Response: S230=-xxx dBm<cr><lf> with xxx decimal value The RSSI values range from -115 up to -40 dBm	**None**	
R/W	S231	RF OUT level	Adjusts the RF out level 0 => 0 dBm (1 mW) 1 => 7 dBm (5 mW) 2 => 10 dBm (10 mW) 3 => 14 dBm (25 mW) (*) 4 => 17 dBm (50 mW) (*)	**2**	7
			Serial link		
R/W	S210	Baudrate	Serial link rate in bits/s '0': 600 '1': 1 200 '2': 2 400 '3': 4 800 '4': 9 600 '5': 19 200 '6': 38 400 '7': 57 600	**4**	1,2, 5
R/W	S211	Data length	'7' : 7 bits '8' : 8 bits	**8**	5
R/W	S212	Parity	'1' : none '2' : even '3' : odd	**1**	5

(*) These RF OUT levels can be used for compensate antenna losses.

Type	Register	Function	Description	Default value	Note
R/W	S213	Stop bits	'1 ' : 1 stop bit '2' : 2 stop bit	**1**	5
R/W	S214	Command timeout	Time out duration for detecting the +++ pattern, unit ms. From 3 up to 240.	**3**	1
R/W	S215	Interface type	'0' : RS232 only '1' : RS232 or RS485 (managed DE/RE lines)	**1**	
R/W	S216	Handshake	'0' : hardware, RTS (**restricted** to addressed protocol) '2' : none	**2**	
R/W	S219	RS485 delay	Delay between DE activation and the first RS485 transmitted byte From 0 up to 160	**3**	
			Protocol		
R/W	S220	Protocol	'1'= transparent mode **'6'= addressed**	**6**	
R/W	S252	Reception address	From 0 up to FFFF Used in addressed protocol only, for filtering incoming frame		
R/W	S256	Transmission address	From 0 up to FFFF Used in addressed protocol only, added to out coming frame		
			Miscellaneous		
R/W	S232	Power management	0 disable modes 1 immediately enter standby mode 2 enable low power down mode	**0**	
R/W	S205	Pin code	Pin code value Value 0000 is not allowed	**1111**	
R/W	S207	Pin code activation	0 pin code disabled 1 pin code enabled	**0**	

NOTE 1

When a serial speed change is requested, the S214 and S217 registers values are automatically set to a value greater or equal than the duration of three

characters in the requested speed (13 ms for 2400 bauds, 7 ms for 4800, 3 ms otherwise).

NOTE 2

Streaming mode without flow control. Be careful ➔ using a serial rate greater to the radio rate must produce character losts if the flow control is not used.
If the radio rate is equal to the serial rate, the radio frame is longer than the serial frame, due to radio protocol overhead; but the radio overhead will be generated only when the radio transmission begins ➔ this overhead will be absorbed by internal buffer size.

For example, if the current radio rate is 10 kbit/s, a serial rate of 9 600 should be used without flow control, while using a serial rate of 19 200 (with 10 kbit/s for the radio rate) will produce data overrun.

For avoiding character lost, you should :

1. use the flow control (addressed mode with hardware handshake)
2. or use a serial rate lower or equal to the radio rate
3. or limit the size of serial data to the maximum size of the internal buffer (S218).

NOTE 3

(S200 register) see chapter ***Radio channels*** and chapter ***Channel rejection***

NOTE 4

The preamble duration is linked to the current radio rate.

The preamble values are :

	Default preamble value	Minimum preamble value
WB channel (high radio rate)	5 ms	4 ms
NB channel (low radio rate)	20 ms	10 ms

BE CAREFUL

Keep in mind reducing preamble duration below default value will reduce transmission delay but generate possible frame error rate (up to 1 or 2/1000)!!!

NOTE 5

When changing the serial link configuration (rate, parity, stop bit...), the answer is done using the old serial link format, the next command must be sent using the new serial format.

NOTE 6

(S232 register) see chapter ***Power management.***

NOTE 7

The RF out power is set up at 10mW by default but could be adjusted using AT commands.
According to CEPT/ERC/REC 70-03 recommendation, in Europe, the power is limited to 10mW in this frequency band.

Specifications

	434 MHz European version
Embedded protocol	ADEUNIS RF enhanced & versatile RF comms manager
Embedded profiles	High Data rate Monochannel modem Middle Data Rate Monochannel modem
Link set-up and status	Through Hayes commands
Radio rough data rate	10 000 & 57 600 bps
UART programmable format	Serial rate from 600 bps to 57,6 kbps
UART TTL ports	TXD – RXD – RTS – CTS or RS485 driving capability
Transceiver multi-modes	Transparent or Addressed
Programmable Frequency	433.05 to 434.79 MHz / Europa
Channelization	Adjusted to improve sensitivity (wide and narrow band)
Programmable Radiated RF power	Up to 10 mW (10 dBm): default value 25 mW (14dBm) and 50 mW (17dBm): these RF OUT levels can be used for compensate antenna losses.
Sensitivity	Down to –110 dBm (for 10^{-3}/PN9)
Operating range (open space)	External antenna : up to 1000 m
RSSI level	RF signal qualification
Operating voltage	Regulated 3.3V nominal (3 to 3.6 V)
TX / RX consumption (max)	100 mA / 35 mA
Power Down current	< 30 µA
Operating temperature	-30°C / +70°C
Dimensions	42 x 20 x 4 mm
Standards compliance	EN 300-220 / EN 301 489

References

ARF7525A: Plugged module without antenna

Glossary

TBD	To Be Defined
NC	Not Connected
NU	Not Used
FHSS	Frequency Hopping Spread Spectrum
FIFO	First In First Out
WB	Wide Band
NB	Narrow Band

ANNEX 1 : Alternative mounting

If the module cannot be plugged directly on the motherboard, it is possible to mount a connector. However, we do not recommend this use to keep the radio stability of the module.

Some references of connector

Module header:

- Vertical Male header: Antelec ref. AM2D 200 26 6 G

Motherboard receptacle:

- Vertical Female receptacle (Through Hole) :
  Antelec ref. AF2D 200 26 G
- Right Angle Female receptacle (Through Hole) :
  Antelec ref. AF2C 200 26 49 G
- Vertical Female receptacle (Surface Mount) :
  Antelec ref. AF2D 200 26 G CMS
- Right Angle Female receptacle (Surface Mount) :
  Antelec ref. F2C 200 026 G CMS

ANNEX 2 : Firmware updates

Firmware	Updates

Document	Updates
V2	Pin code added
V1	Initial Version